

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1 and 3-6 are currently amended to clarify the claimed invention.

No new matter is entered as a result of the amendments.

The claims are believed to be allowable for the reasons set forth herein. Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1 and 3-6 are amended thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1 and 3-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogino et al. (USPN 6,236,561) in view of Hernandez (USPN 4,594,641) or Knecht et al. (USPN 5,640,746).

Ogini is cited as disclosing a method of manufacturing a solid electrolytic capacitor. The Office admits that Ogini

fails to disclose applying a pre-coat resin to a portion of the capacitor terminals.

Hernandez is cited as disclosing those features lacking in Ogini. Applicants respectfully disagree with the application of Hernandez, and particularly, with the position that Hernandez teaches the missing features. Hernandez teaches encapsulating but does not teach a pre-coat resin. Hernandez is silent with regards to the thermal properties and even states that "Any suitable encapsulate material may be used to include epoxy, silicon, etc." without further limitation. One of skill in the art would have no basis to even consider a pre-coat resin as set forth in claim 1 and would certainly have no basis for considering a precoat resin with the specific properties set forth in claim 1.

Knecht is cited as an alternative to Hernandez. Hernandez actually teaches against the method of claim 1 since any interlayer must be resistant to high temperature. One of skill in the art would be lead away from a material which is flexible at high temperature since, by definition, this indicates a lack of thermal resistance.

In summary, Ogino lacks teachings of critical elements of claim 1 as set forth by the Office. Hernandez and Knecht do not provide those teachings which are otherwise lacking in Ogini. Knecht teaches against the precoat resin of claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 represents a patentable advance in the art.

Claims 3-6 depend from claim 1 and are patentable for, at least, the same reasons as claim 1.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1 and 3-6 be withdrawn as being improperly based on art which neither teaches the claimed invention nor leads one of skill in the art in a direction to ultimately attempt the claimed invention. Alternatively, the cited art leads one in a direction which is contrary to the claimed invention.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogino in view of Hernandez or Knecht, as applied above, and further in view of Hayase et al. (USPN 6,686,085).

Ogino, Hernandez and Knecht are discussed above and all arguments presented above are applicable herein equally.

The Office admits that Ogino, Hernandez and Knecht fail to recite liquid epoxy resins containing lactones. Hayase is cited as providing the teachings that are otherwise lacking.

Hayase is directed to a chemical battery and therefore provides no guidance regarding a method for manufacturing a capacitor. Teachings related to a liquid resin containing lactones may be of interest, in hindsight, but this teaching does not mitigate the deficiencies of the primary references with which it is combined. One of skill in the art would be no better prepared to manufacture a capacitor in a manner set forth in claim 1 after referring to Hayase. Even if a lactone were considered, in hindsight, one of skill in the art would have no basis for contemplating using lactones as a pre-coat since the primary references do not teach a precoat and Hayase provides no guidance for the manufacture of capacitors.

The rejection of claim 2 is traversed and notice thereof is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSIONS

Claims 1-6 are pending in the present application. All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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